

numbers of birds were still present at these rocks on 14 February (G. Harold pers. comm.). It is possible that the birds breeding on the mainland were unable to find suitable nest sites on the adjacent small islands.

Our dates of summer breeding are also interesting. Serventy *et al.* indicate that birds breed only in spring in southern Western Australia and by late summer are migrating north. They note, however, that this species has recently colonised Baudin Rocks in South Australia where it breeds in January.

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Chestnut Whistling Duck in the Perth Region — The Chestnut Whistling Duck (*Dendrocygna arcuata*) was seen on the eastern side of Lake Herdsman (31° 55'S, 115° 48'E) on 11 November 1985. Two birds were present and were observed intermittently until January 1986. The last observation was made on 9 January. Generally, the ducks were very retiring and difficult to discern over an average water distance of 100 m. Only good binoculars or a telescope revealed their identity.

Over time they were seen camped and/or preening amongst coots, black ducks or grey teal on what may be called the far shore. Only rarely were they noted swimming in front of the bulrush-dominated foreshore and were never observed feeding. No sound was recorded nor were they seen flying. At times, depending on light and water conditions, their rufous brown underparts from the chest downwards, as well as the oblique flank plumes, were quite obvious. Bill and legs were black, face light brown with a dark brown crown stripe; only rarely the white undertail was noted. Only once were they on the observer's side of the water, and their upright stance while swimming was quite distinct from the other local ducks. This is only the second published record of this tropical species in the Perth area. A specimen had been collected at Wanneroo in 1899 (Serventy & Whittell, *Birds of Western Australia*).

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Notes of Reproduction in Captive *Lialis burtonis* — On 19 January 1985 a gravid *Lialis burtonis* (snout-vent-length 176mm, total length 365mm; weight after oviposition 13.0gm) was collected at Kings Park, near Perth. It was active on a bicycle track in the early evening among Jarrah and Banksia woodland.

The lizard was housed in a 60 cm vivarium using light yellow sand as substrate; cage furnishings consisted of a fragmented clay tile for shelter and an overhanging branch for climbing. An artificial light consisting of a 60 watt incandescent lamp was used and *Cryptoblepharus plagiocephalus* skinks were offered for food but no interest was shown in these.

Two eggs were laid on 28 January. Immediately after weighing and measuring, (Table 1) the eggs were placed in a margarine container on dampened vermiculite with 'cling wrap' being pulled